

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825  
August 1, 2012**

Present:

William Harrison, Chairman  
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chairman  
Melissa Bartlett  
Christine Greene  
Shirley Harris

Kevin Howell  
Reginald Kenan  
John Tate  
Patricia Willoughby  
Jean Woolard

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent	Tyronna Hooker, Teacher of the Year Advisor
Earlie Coe, Local Board of Education Advisor	Darcy Grimes, Teacher of the Year Advisor
Patrice Faison, Principal of the Year Advisor	

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

Chairman Bill Harrison called the Wednesday session of the August State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He noted that this month's schedule was noticeably different due to the Closed Session that was necessary for the Board to enter into, following the appeal hearing held this morning for the revocation of charters for three charter schools.

Prior to reading the Ethics Statement, Chairman Harrison welcomed new Teacher of the Year Advisor Darcy Grimes (Watauga County Schools) to her first official State Board meeting. He noted that Ms. Grimes would be officially welcomed during the full State Board meeting on Thursday. Chairman Harrison also spoke briefly about the Board's website and public access to all of the Board material available online.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. There were no conflicts of interest communicated at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Education Building, Raleigh	Wednesday, August 1, 2012	Board Room, 10:00 AM
-----------------------------	---------------------------	----------------------

## **Closed Session**

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to convene in closed session.

*Upon motion made by Mr. Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Christine Greene, the Board voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consult with its attorneys on attorney-client privileged matters and to consider the handling of the following six cases: Bridges v. NC State Board of Education; Cape Lookout Marine Sciences High School v. NC State Board of Education; Maxine L. Hardy v. NC State Board of Education; Myra F. Moore v. NC State Board of Education and June Atkinson Superintendent; NC Learns, Inc. v. NC State Board of Education; Hoke County et al v. NC State Board of Education.*

*Upon motion made by Ms. Shirley Harris and seconded by Ms. Christine Greene, the Board voted unanimously to recess the State Board of Education meeting.*

Following the Committee meetings in the afternoon, Chairman Harrison reconvened the Board in open session and thanked Board members Kevin Howell, Melissa Bartlett, and Shirley Harris for their work as an Appeals Panel on Tuesday, hearing appeals on possible charter school revocations. He explained that the full Board spent this morning in a special closed session reviewing the recommendations of the Appeals Panel. In addition, he reported that the Board received a lunch presentation from the Financial and Business Service Area's summer interns: Dayne Batten, Christopher Britt, Lauren Hales, and Jennifer DeNeal. The interns represent UNC-Chapel Hill, NC State, and Duke Universities.

With no other business on the agenda, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn.

*Upon motion made by Mr. John Tate and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to adjourn the State Board of Education meeting until Thursday, August 2, at 9:00 a.m.*

**Minutes of the  
North Carolina State Board of Education  
Education Building  
301 N. Wilmington Street  
Raleigh, NC 27601-2825  
August 2, 2012**

The North Carolina State Board of Education met and the following members were present:

William C. Harrison, Chairman  
Wayne McDevitt, Vice Chairman  
Walter Dalton, Lt. Governor  
Janet Cowell, State Treasurer  
Christine Greene

Melissa Bartlett  
Reginald Kenan  
John Tate  
Patricia Willoughby  
Jean Woolard

Also present were:

June St. Clair Atkinson, State Superintendent  
Earlie Coe, Local Board Member Advisor

Patrice Faison, Principal of the Year Advisor  
Darcy Grimes, Teacher of the Year Advisor

**CALL TO ORDER AND INTRODUCTION**

State Board of Education Chairman Bill Harrison called the Thursday session of the August State Board of Education meeting to order and declared the Board in official session. He welcomed onsite visitors, online listeners, and Twitter followers to the meeting, and reminded the audience that the Board held its committee meetings on Wednesday and today will vote on action items and receive reports on other topics. Chairman Harrison explained that all Board materials, including PowerPoint presentations are on the SBE website and available to the public.

Chairman Harrison noted that the Board welcomes its newest Teacher of the Year Advisor Ms. Darcy Grimes to her first official Board meeting. Chairman Harrison noted the absence of Superintendent Advisor Diane Frost due to the passing of her grandfather.

In compliance with the requirements of Chapter 138A-15(e) of the State Government Ethics Act, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members of their duty to avoid conflicts of interest and appearances of conflicts of interest under Chapter 138A. He asked if members of the Board knew of any conflict of interest or any appearance of conflict with respect to any matters coming before them during this meeting. There were no conflicts of interest communicated at this time. The Chairman then requested that if, during the course of the meeting, members became aware of an actual or apparent conflict of

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

interest that they bring the matter to the attention of the Chairman. It would then be their duty to abstain from participating in discussion and from voting on the matter.

Chairman Harrison explained that today the Board will receive the ABCs/AMO accountability results, along with the 4- and 5-year graduation rates. The presentation will be at the end of the meeting.

Board member Christine Greene was recognized to lead the Board with the Pledge of Allegiance.

### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2012, State Board meeting.

#### ***Discussion/Comments:***

- There was no discussion.

*Mr. John Tate made a motion to approve the minutes of the July 11, 2012, meeting. Seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the minutes as presented.*

### **SPECIAL RECOGNITION – In-Coming State Board of Education Advisor**

- Ms. Darcy Grimes (NC Teacher of the Year Advisor, July 2012-13; Third grade teacher (Bethel Elementary School, Watauga County Schools)

Chairman Harrison prefaced this presentation by speaking about value-added to the State Board through the contributions of the advisors.

On behalf of the Board, Chairman Harrison officially welcomed Ms. Grimes as its new Teacher of the Year Advisor. He noted that Ms. Grimes is most recently a third grade teacher at Bethel Elementary School in Watauga County, teaching there after teaching three years in Wilkes County. She is a graduate of Appalachian State University where she earned a Bachelor's degree in Elementary Education and minored in Social Sciences. While an undergraduate at Appalachian, Ms. Grimes joined Watauga County Schools as the after-school site director at Blowing Rock Elementary School. Ms. Grimes is an Intel Master Teacher and is currently pursuing a Master's Degree in Instructional Technology at Appalachian. In addition, Ms. Grimes started an after-school running club for girls, volunteers with the local science club, and successfully wrote a Fresh Fruits and Vegetables grant for her school. Ms. Grimes recently became the first NC Teacher of the Year to be invited to participate in a tandem skydive from an airplane at 13,500' with the Golden Knights of Fort Bragg.

Ms. Grimes was presented with an SBE plaque, brief case, and pin. The presentation was photographed.

**KEY INITIATIVES REPORTS AND DISCUSSION****➤ Career and College Ready, Set, Go/Race to the Top (RttT) Update – Mr. Adam Levinson  
(Director, Race to the Top Program)**

Mr. Levinson explained that the Department does not have the usual detailed description of the RttT ongoing work to share with the State Board because the U.S. Department of Education (USED) granted the Department a one month reprieve from doing the monthly status report since staff have just returned from the Summer Institute. Mr. Levinson reported that staff is deep into negotiations with vendors for the Instructional Improvement System (IIS).

Chairman Harrison commended Mr. Levinson, Superintendent Atkinson and staff for their ongoing work with RttT; he noted many positive comments about the work and support from the field.

**STATE SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

Prior to beginning her report, State Superintendent Atkinson recognized Dr. Austin Obasohan (Superintendent, Duplin County Schools) who was present in the audience.

Dr. Atkinson reported that at the direction of the State Board, invitations have been sent to a group of individuals to serve on the K-6 Licensure Task Force. Once all of the responses have been received, Dr. Atkinson noted that she would share the Task Force membership list with the Board.

Dr. Atkinson also reported that last month the Board asked the Department to bring back the accreditation policy for adoption this month. She explained that since the General Assembly passed new legislation about the Accountability Model, the Department has asked to bring that policy at a later time since the legislation has an impact on accreditation.

**Major Initiatives Planned for 2012-13*****Technology***

- Release of Instructional Improvement System and Shared Learning Collaborative, first phase
- NC Education Cloud –AS/440 centralization
- Development of more online modules from Virtual School
- First and partial phase rollout of Power School

***Professional Development***

- Development of more online professional development modules

***Great Teachers and Leaders***

- Approval of Standard 8 for administrators
- Approval of teacher evaluation for Standard 6
- Regional workshops for principals, teachers and parents
- Professional development for Common Core State Standards and NC Essential Standards, next phase

***Standards and Assessment***

- Standard setting for READY Accountability Model
- Common exam/test release for about 50 courses
- Rollout of new READY report card

**Superintendents' Quarterly Meeting**

Met with superintendents and the following items were discussed:

- 2012-13 major initiatives
- Implementation of teacher effectiveness model
- Implementation of Measures of Student Learning
- Excellent Public Schools Act and other legislation
- 2012-13 state budget and its implications

**CCSSO Meeting**

Attended Council of Chief State School Officers' meeting in Idaho where the following topics were discussed:

- Strategic resource allocation
- Elementary and Secondary Education Act
- Smarter Balance Consortium work
- Cost and benefit of open educational resources and technology
- Professional development and continuous improvement for educators

**Sequestration Testimony**

Testified before the U.S. Senate Labor, Health and Human Services, Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee about concerns over the impact of sequestration and drastic funding cuts to education.

Testified in opposition to automatic funding cuts that will be detrimental to education reform occurring across the country, and outlined the immediate need for clear guidance from the federal government on how sequestration will work if it goes into effect on January 2, 2013.

**Partnership for 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills (P21) Awards**

P21's Educational Support Systems and Intentional Design Award went to NCDPI for the READY Outreach Meetings that were held across the state earlier this year. NCDPI leadership and Communications staff presented a total of 15 three-hour sessions in eight regions across the state between Feb. 28 and March 23. More than 4,100 principals, teachers, superintendents and communications directors attended, representing more than 80 percent of the schools statewide.

The Recognition of Achievement in 21st Century Education John Wilson Award also was presented to NCDPI for the North Carolina Virtual Public School (NCVPS) Occupational Course of Study (OCS) Blended Learning Program.

NCDPI partnered with the NCVPS to create the OCS Blended Learning Program. This initiative pairs an NCVPS content teacher with a face-to-face OCS classroom teacher to provide blended instruction to OCS students across the state.

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

P21 is a national organization that advocates for 21st century readiness for every student through support of local, state and federal policies that provide resources for educators.

### **Recent Activities of the State Superintendent**

#### **☐ Delivered remarks/keynote address at**

- New Literacies Teacher Leader Institute for IMPACT V project, Raleigh, NC
- Northeast Leadership Academy cohort orientation, Raleigh, NC
- CTE Summer Conference, Greensboro, NC
- Financial and Business Services Summer Conference, Research Triangle Park, NC
- Marine Corps Scholarship Fund 2012 Scholarship Announcement, Camp Lejeune/Jacksonville, NC
- Graduation Ceremony for Alternative Licensure Teachers, Guilford County Schools, Greensboro, NC
- National Physical Education Institute, Asheville, NC

#### **☐ Visited**

- Bellamy Elementary School, Wilmington, NC
- International Civil Rights Center and Museum, Greensboro, NC
- Buncombe County Schools' Dropout Prevention Program and Summer Camps, Asheville, NC

In closing comments, State Superintendent Atkinson recognized Mr. Michael Walker from UNC-Chapel Hill who served as a summer intern for the Communications Division. In addition, she recognized the two summer interns who worked in the State Superintendent's Office this summer: Mr. Jaalil Hart from AT&T University and Mr. Matthew Hughes from UNC-Chapel Hill. She commended each of the interns for their excellent work.

## **BOARD MEETING AND COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORTS**

### **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chairman Harrison moved to the Consent Agenda which is reserved for items that generally create little or no debate such as routine appointments, items that come for information purposes only, routine reports, and final approval of reports that the Board has already discussed. Board members have already seen these materials prior to the Board meetings, and may ask that items be removed from the Consent agenda to be discussed on an individual basis. Consent items will be adopted as a whole.

Chairman Harrison noted three items for consideration and asked if any Board members wanted to remove this item from the Consent Agenda. Hearing no requests, Chairman Harrison asked for a motion to approve GCS 4 – Changes to Policy Delineating the Components of the ABCs Accountability Program for 2011-12 School Year; GCS 5 – Changes to North Carolina's NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook; and TCP 8 – Proposed Rubric for School Social Workers.

*Upon motion by Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve GCS 4 – Changes to Policy Delineating the Components of the ABCs Accountability Program for 2011-12 School Year; GCS 5 – Changes to North Carolina’s NCLB Consolidated State Application Accountability Workbook; and TCP 8 – Proposed Rubric for School Social Workers, as presented. (See Attachments GCS 4, GCS 5, and TCP 8)*

**GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS**  
(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair; Melissa Bartlett, Vice Chair)

**CONSENT**

**GCS 4 – Changes to Policy Delineating the Components of the ABCs Accountability Program for 2011-12 School Year**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # GCS-C-020; No Child Left Behind (NCLB)

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy Howard (Director, Accountability Services)

**Description:**

In December 2011, the U.S. Department of Education approved the elimination of the Grade 10 Writing Assessment as a federal reporting requirement, and subsequently, the State Board of Education eliminated the assessment from the North Carolina Testing Program. Therefore, staff recommends State Board of Education policy GCS-C-020 updated to reflect the elimination of the Grade 10 Writing Assessment for the 2011-12 ABCs accountability program. This policy was approved at the June 2012 SBE Meeting. Subsequent review identified the need for technical corrections.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the technical changes.

**21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**  
(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair; Mr. John Tate, Vice Chair)

**CONSENT**

**TCP 8 – Proposed Rubric for School Social Workers**

**Policy Implications:** S.L. 2011-348;115C-325 (h1)

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director, Educator Recruitment and Development Division) and Ms. Chris Minard (Allied Health Consultant, Healthy Schools Section)

**Description:**

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of teachers. New standards for the evaluation of School Social Workers, aligned with the new teacher standards, were adopted in 2009. The proposed rubric is the basis of new evaluation instruments for NC School Social Workers to be developed by Research and Evaluation Associates.



A draft of the rubric for evaluating NC School Social Workers is presented for discussion this month (6/2012). The draft will be used to obtain feedback from stakeholders in the process for the development of the NC School Social Worker Evaluation Instrument.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to review the proposed rubric.

**ACTION AND DISCUSSION AGENDA****GLOBALLY COMPETITIVE STUDENTS**

(Ms. Patricia Willoughby, Chair; Melissa Bartlett, Vice Chair)

Committee Chair Patricia Willoughby reported that GCS 1, ABCs/AMO Report for the 2011-12 School Year, will be presented for action at the end of the State Board meeting.

***DISCUSSION*****GCS 2 – Policy Delineating the Components of the New Accountability Model**

**Policy Implications:** No Child Left Behind

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support), and Dr. Tammy Howard (Director, Accountability Operations)

**Description:**

The State Board of Education has approved the implementation of a new accountability model beginning in 2012-13. For grades 3-8, the model includes student performance on end-of-grade assessments in English language arts and mathematics at grades 3-8 and in science at grades 5 and 8. For high schools, the components of the model include: (1) Algebra I/Integrated I, English II, and biology end-of-course assessment results, (2) ACT results from a statewide administration of 11<sup>th</sup> grade students, (3) 4-year and 5-year graduation rates, (4) successful completion of Algebra II/Integrated Math III, (5) WorkKeys results from an administration to Career and Technical Education Level II completers, and (6) as an option, implementation of a graduation project. The new accountability model will report the current year status, growth, and progress (targets over time). The federal Annual Measureable Objective targets for English language arts and mathematics will be included in the progress report.

The new policy specifies the components of the state accountability model and the inclusion of assessments in each report: Status, Growth, and Progress.

**Recommendations:**

Board members are asked to review and comment on the proposed new policy.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby noted a robust discussion of this item during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday. She encouraged everyone to provide feedback or direct questions to Dr. Howard prior to the September Board meeting.
- There was no further discussion.

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting. (See Attachment GCS 2)

## ***DISCUSSION***

### **GCS 3 – Expansion of mClass3D Diagnostic Assessments Statewide**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-83.1F

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Ms. Carolyn Guthrie (Director, Early Childhood/Elementary Projects, Special Assistant to Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support)

#### **Description:**

Section 115C-83.1F of the 2012-2013 budget law identifies strategies for facilitating early grade reading proficiency. The law states that “Kindergarten, first, second, and third grade students shall be assessed with valid, reliable, formative, and diagnostic reading assessments made available to local school administrative units by the State Board of Education pursuant to G.S. 115C-174.11(a).” The state began a reading diagnostic initiative in 2009 with 27 pilot schools. This initiative expanded to 480 schools in 2010 and continued in 2011. The schools are using mClass Reading 3D, an on-going formative and diagnostic assessment system with three benchmarking periods. Teachers formatively assess students throughout the year between the benchmarks and use the assessment results to guide their instruction in the classroom. This web-based system is downloaded to an electronic touch screen device to allow teachers ease and speed of administration. Immediate teacher reports give valuable feedback about the instructional needs of the students and identify appropriate, individualized interventions and strategies. Administrative reports allow for school administrators and central office personnel to make decisions at the school and district level about successful instructional methods, intervention programs and scheduling. Informative parent reports with suggested reinforcing activities are also provided after each benchmark. The Department of Public Instruction will expand the implementation of the mClass Reading 3D diagnostic system state-wide for the 2013-14 school year as required by legislation. Training will begin in August 2012 for schools that would like to begin the assessments in the fall of 2012 and training and resources will be provided throughout the year to ensure full implementation by all schools statewide by the first benchmarking period of 2013. A policy outlining the implementation process and expectations for schools and districts is attached.

#### **Recommendations:**

The NC Department of Public Instruction recommends that the State Board of Education adopt this policy to ensure the administration of mClass Reading 3D as the state formative and diagnostic reading assessments in grades K-3 for the 2013-14 school year.

#### **Discussion/Comments:**

- GCS Committee Chair Willoughby noted that GCS 3 was originally submitted as a discussion item; however, she suggested that as a result of the discussion during the GCS Committee meeting on Wednesday, that this item be moved to Action on First Reading. Chair Willoughby explained that this is designed to be in effect for the 2013-14 school year as part of the budget; the funds are available this year for any school that wants to sign on and receive the training to effectively use these diagnostic materials. There were no objections.

- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the policy as presented to ensure the administration of mClass Reading 3D as the state formative and diagnostic reading assessments in grades K-3 for the 2013-14 school year.*

## **21<sup>ST</sup> CENTURY PROFESSIONALS COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT**

**(Ms. Shirley Harris, Chair; Mr. John Tate, Vice Chair)**

In the absence of TCP Committee Chair Shirley Harris, TCS Committee Vice Chair John Tate managed the TCP agenda.

### ***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

#### **TCP 1 – Recommendations from the Advisory Board on Requests for Exception from Teacher Education Programs**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-021 and TCP-B-009

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Shirley Harris (Member, State Board of Education)

#### **Description:**

In April 2006, the Board adopted a policy to allow individuals who have not met licensing requirements due to extenuating circumstances to request an exception from the requirement or an extension of time. The request must include documents from the teacher, the principal, the superintendent, and the chair of the local board of education. In June 2006, a similar policy was approved to allow colleges and universities to submit requests for exception to Praxis I testing requirements on behalf of students seeking admission to teacher education programs. Requests are evaluated by a panel chaired by a member of the State Board. Panel recommendations will be presented in closed session.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the actions related to each request be approved.

#### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member John Tate noted that this item was discussed and voted on during closed session on Wednesday. Mr. Tate reported that the recommendation and decision of the Board has been communicated to the individual.
- There was no further discussion.

### ***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

#### **TCP 2 – Final Decision in Contested Case: Myra F. Moore v. State Board of Education June Atkinson, Superintendent, 11 EDC 11927**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 150B-36

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Katie Cornetto (Staff Attorney, State Board of Education)

**Description:**

Myra F. Moore filed a petition with the Office of Administrative Hearings contesting the decision to deny her a North Carolina Teaching License. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board shall issue a Final Agency Decision in the contested case.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- There was no discussion.

*Upon motion by Mr. John Tate, and seconded by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's decision as its final Agency decision in the case of Myra F. Moore v. State Board of Education, June Atkinson Superintendent, 11 EDC 11927. (See Attachment TCP 2)*

**DISCUSSION**

**TCP 3 – Revisions to the North Carolina Central Office Staff Evaluation Process**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-C-021

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services & Instructional Support) and Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director, Educator Recruitment and Development Division)

**Description:**

The current version of TCP-C-021 offers the North Carolina Central Office Staff Evaluation Process as an option for the evaluation of central office staff members with the rank of director or above. In the absence of an instrument for central office staff members who do not hold the rank of director, LEAs have resorted to the use of North Carolina Teacher Evaluation Process for these individuals. The Teacher Evaluation Process does not apply to LEA staff members who are not responsible for student instruction.

Given the need to evaluate these staff members with an instrument appropriate to their roles and responsibilities, the revision to TCP-C-021 allows LEAs to use the Central Office Staff Evaluation Process with employees regardless of rank. In the coming years, DPI will begin work on an evaluation instrument for LEA employees who provide coaching and support to other educators.

**Recommendations:**

The SBE will review the policy amendment from staff and provide direction on any revisions needed.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member Tate noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting (See Attachment TCP 3)

## ***DISCUSSION***

### **TCP 4 – Proposed Rubric for School Counselors**

**Policy Implications:** N/A

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director, Division of Educator Recruitment and Development) and Ms. Linda Brannan (Student Support Services Consultant)

#### **Description:**

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of teachers. In 2008, the State Board of education adopted new professional standards for the evaluation of school counselors; these standards are intentionally aligned with the standards for teachers. The proposed rubric is the basis of a new evaluation instrument for NC school counselors to be developed by Research and Evaluation Associates.

A draft of the rubric for evaluating NC school counselors is presented for discussion this month. The draft will be used to obtain feedback from stakeholders in the process for the development of the NC School Counselor Evaluation Instrument.

#### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education review the recommendations.

#### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member Tate noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting (See Attachment TCP 4)

## ***DISCUSSION***

### **TCP 5 – Proposed Rubric for School Psychologists**

**Policy Implications:** N/A

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Lynne Johnson (Director, Educator Recruitment and Development Division)

#### **Description:**

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of teachers. In 2009, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of school psychologists; these standards are intentionally aligned with the standards for teachers. The proposed rubric is the basis of a new evaluation instrument for NC school psychologists to be developed by Research and Evaluation Associates.

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

A draft of the rubric for evaluating NC school psychologists is presented for discussion this month. The draft will be used to obtain feedback from stakeholders in the process for the development of the NC School Psychologist Evaluation Instrument.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to review the proposed rubric.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member Tate noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting (See Attachment TCP 5)

***DISCUSSION***

**TCP 6 – Proposed Rubric for Instructional Technology Facilitators**

**Policy Implications:** SBE Policy # TCP-A-003

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Neill Kimrey (Director, Instructional Technology)

**Description:**

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of teachers. In April 2012, the State Board of Education approved a new set of professional standards for North Carolina's Instructional Technology Facilitators (ITFs). A draft Evaluation Rubric for North Carolina's ITFs, aligned with the approved teacher rubric, has been developed. The proposed rubric is the basis of new evaluation instruments for NC ITFs, to be developed by Research and Evaluation Associates.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to review the evaluation rubric for Instructional Technology Facilitators.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member Tate noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting (See Attachment TCP 6)

**DISCUSSION****TCP 7 – Proposed Rubric for School Library Media Coordinators****Policy Implications:** N/A**Presenter(s):** Mr. Neill Kimrey (Director, Instructional Technology)**Description:**

In June 2007, the State Board of Education approved new professional standards for the evaluation of teachers. In April 2012, the State Board of Education approved a new set of professional standards for North Carolina's School Library Media Coordinators (SLMCs). A draft Evaluation Rubric for North Carolina's SLMCs, aligned with the approved teacher rubric, has been developed. The proposed rubric is the basis of new evaluation instruments for NC SLMCs, to be developed by Research and Evaluation Associates.

**Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to review the evaluation rubric for School Library Media Coordinators.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Board member Tate noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCP Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

This item is presented to the State Board of Education for discussion at the August 2012 meeting and will return for action at the September meeting (See Attachment TCP 7)

**TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY SYSTEMS  
BUSINESS/FINANCE AND ADVOCACY COMMITTEE CHAIR REPORT  
(Mr. Kevin Howell, Chair; Mr. Tom Speed, Vice Chair)**

In the absence of TCS Committee Chair Kevin Howell and Vice Chair Tom Speed, Chairman Harrison asked Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt to manage the TCS agenda.

***ACTION ON FIRST READING*****TCS 1 – Final Decision in Contested Case: Maxine L. Hardy v. NCSBE****Policy Implications:** General Statute § 150B-36**Presenter(s):** Ms. Katie Cornetto (Staff Attorney, State Board of Education)**Description:**

Maxine L. Hardy filed a petition with the Office of Administrative Hearings contesting the decision to deny her a waiver of repayment of the NBPTS fee to the State. The Administrative Law Judge upheld the agency's action.

Education Building, Raleigh	Thursday, August 2, 2012	Board Room, 9:00 AM
-----------------------------	--------------------------	---------------------

**Recommendations:**

The State Board shall issue a Final Agency Decision in the contested case.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt noted that this item was discussed during Closed Session on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Christine Greene, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the Administrative Law Judge's decision as its final Agency decision, as discussed during Closed Session deliberations. (See Attachment TCS 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**TCS 2 – Membership for the State Advisory Council on Indian Education**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-210.1; SBE Policy # TCS-B-001

**Presenter(s):** Dr. Rebecca Garland (Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Debora Williams (Special Assistant, Graduation and Dropout Prevention Initiatives)

**Description:**

The General Assembly in 1988 passed House Bill 2560 that established a fifteen-member State Advisory Council on Indian Education. The purpose of this Council is to advise the State Board of Education on ways to effectively meet the needs of Indian students; advocate meaningful programs designed to reduce and eventually eliminate low achievement among American Indian students; prepare and present an annual report on the status of Indian education to the State Board of Education and to the various Indian tribal organizations at the statewide Indian Unity Conference; work closely with the Department of Public Instruction to improve coordination and communication between and among programs; and upon request, advise the State Board of Education on any other aspect of Indian education.

American Indian educators and parents on the Council serve staggered two-year terms but not more than two consecutive terms, and the remaining members serve unspecified terms at the discretion of the appointing authorities. Nominees to the Council are submitted by their respective tribal organizations to the chairman of the North Carolina Commission of Indian Affairs who then submits recommendations to the State Board of Education for approval and appointment.

Legislation requires that American Indian members of the Council be broadly representative of North Carolina Indian tribes and organizations, specifically, Coharie, the Eastern Band of Cherokee; Haliwai-Saponi; Lumbee; Meherrin; Occaneechi; Sappony; Waccamaw-Sioun; the Cumberland County Association for Indian People, Inc.; the Guilford Native American Association, Inc.; the Metrolina Native American Association,; and any other Indian tribe gaining state recognition in the future.



<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Thursday, August 2, 2012</b>	<b>Board Room, 9:00 AM</b>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

The following individuals are being recommended by the NC Commission of Indian Affairs for re-appointment to the Council:

- Teresa Ammons, Cumberland County Association for Indian People, Inc.
- Kertrainer Bennett, Parent, Guilford County Native American Association, Inc.
- Catherin Chavis, Lumbee Tribe of North Carolina, Robeson County
- Sharon Williams, Parent, Coharie Indian Tribe of Sampson County
- Angela Lynch, Parent, Haliwai-Saponi Indian Tribe (re-appointment)

The following individuals are executive appointments of their respective organizations as stipulated in General Statute §115C-210.1:

- Bill James Brewington, University of North Carolina Board of Governors
- Dorothy Crowe, Education Chair, North Carolina Commission on Indian Affairs

### **Recommendations:**

The State Board of Education is asked to approve the individuals submitted for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education.

### **Discussion/Comments:**

- Prior to making a motion, Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt reviewed the five individuals recommended by the NC Commission of Indian Affairs for re-appointment to the Council and the two individual executive appointments of their respective organizations as stipulated in the law.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Jean Woolard, the Board voted unanimously to approve the individuals submitted for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education as recommended for appointment and re-appointment. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

### ***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

#### **TCS 3 – Additional Flexibility for Textbook Funds**

**Policy Implications:** House Bill 200

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), and Mrs. Alexis Schauss (Director, School Business Division)

### **Description:**

The State Board of Education has granted maximum flexibility to LEAs regarding expenditures of State funds for the fiscal year 2012-13. Local education agencies have requested that the Board provide additional flexibility for textbook funds. The request is to provide flexibility to remove the restriction on textbook transfer, which is limited to the current year appropriation only.

### **Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the State Board of Education approve the additional flexibility for the textbook funds.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt explained that the purpose of this item is to remove restrictions and extend additional flexibility to LEAs for textbook funds. He noted a thorough discussion of this item during the TCS Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, the Board voted unanimously to approve the individuals submitted for membership on the State Advisory Council on Indian Education as recommended for appointment and re-appointment. (See Attachment TCS 2)*

**LEADERSHIP FOR INNOVATION**

(Ms. Melissa Bartlett, Chair; Ms. Jean Woolard, Vice Chair)

***ACTION ON FIRST READING***

**LFI 1 – Queens Grant Community School Charter Amendment**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-238.29D (d); SBE Policy # TCS-U-014

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price, (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services) Dr. Joel Medley (Office of Charter Schools)

**Description:**

On July 5, 2012, the Board of Directors at Queen's Grant Community School sent a letter to the Office of Charter Schools requesting State Board review and approval of a charter amendment that would terminate a relationship with the management company that assisted in the high school.

The Charter Schools Act states that "a material revision of the provisions of a charter application shall be made only upon the approval of the State Board of Education." In April 2012, the State Board adopted policy TCS-U-014 prescribing which charter amendments can be approved by the Office of Charter Schools and which ones must be approved by the State Board prior to implementation. An amendment that results in "employing or terminating a management company" must be brought to the State Board for consideration.

Queen's Grant initially opened as a K-8 charter school and partnered with National Heritage Academies. The board of directors sought and received approval from the State Board of Education to add a high school beginning during the fall of 2007. To help bring that to fruition, Queen's Grant partnered with Creative School Development. Part of that agreement was the provision of a suitable facility, which has never fully developed. The increasing costs placed upon the school resulted in a negative fund balance notification from the Division of School Business.

After months of deliberation, the Queen's Grant board of directors voted unanimously at its June 21, 2012 meeting to terminate the contract with Creative School Development contingent upon approval by the State Board of Education. The Board believes the school will be able to self-manage through the recent addition of an experienced, administrative staff.

**Recommendations:**

The Office of Charter Schools recommends that the SBE approve the charter amendment of Queen's Grant.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted a thorough discussion of this item during the LFI Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to approve the charter amendment of Queen's Grant, as presented. (See Attachment LFI 1)*

***ACTION ON FIRST READING – LATE ITEM*****LFI 3 – Bridges Charter School Revocation Final Agency Decision**

LFI 3 – Bridges Charter School Revocation – was presented to the SBE in Closed Session. The vote on this matter occurred in Open Session.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett noted that in July, the State Board of Education initiated revocation based on academic performance for Bridges Charter School. Committee Chair Bartlett reported that the school appealed the revocation action to a three-member panel of the State Board of Education on Tuesday, July 31. She explained that the State Board deliberated in Closed Session on Wednesday, and directed Board members to a copy of the recommended decision at their places.
- There was no further discussion.

*Upon motion by Ms. Melissa Bartlett, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, the Board voted unanimously to adopt the final decision to revoke the charter of Bridges Charter School for inadequate academic performance in failing to meet expected growth, achieve a performance composite of at least 60% in both 2010-11 and 2011-12 academic school years.*

***DISCUSSION*****LFI 2 – Public Charter School Advisory Council Charter Recommendations**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute §115C-238.29

**Presenter(s):** Mr. Philip Price (Chief Financial Officer, Financial and Business Services), Mr. John Betterton (Chair, NC Public Charter School Advisory Council) and Dr. Joel Medley (Director, Office of Charter Schools)

**Description:**

Sixty-three applicants submitted charter applications ahead of the April 13, 2012 twelve noon deadline with the hope of opening and operating a charter school in August 2013. The Office of Charter Schools reviewed all 63 of those applications to ensure they were complete; however, 9 applicants were found to

be incomplete. 54 applications were then forwarded to the Public Charter School Advisory Council for subcommittee review.

The Council divided into three subcommittees to review each applicant and any LEA impact statements. This level of review, which included the creation of a rubric for each applicant, was finalized by the end of May 2012. The full Council met on June 20 & 21, 2012 to hear the subcommittee reports and vote upon which applicants to invite back for an interview.

The Council invited 30 applicants for interviews on July 16-18, 2012. Each group was provided an opportunity to address the deficiencies or weakness identified on the rubrics and for the Council to ask additional questions. After each interview, the Council deliberated and then voted to recommend the following applicants to receive a preliminary charter from the State Board of Education:

Aristotle Preparatory Academy  
Cabarrus Charter Academy  
Cameron Creek Charter  
Charlotte Choice Charter  
Douglass Academy  
Falls Lake Academy  
Flemington Academy  
Howard & Lillian Lee Scholars  
Invest Collegiate  
Island Montessori Charter  
Langtree Charter Academy  
Longleaf School of the Arts  
Oxford Preparatory High School  
Paul R. Brown Leadership Academy  
Pinnacle Classical Academy  
Southeastern Academy  
STEM Education for a Global Society Academy (SEGS)  
Student First Academy  
Summerfield Charter Academy  
The Expedition School  
The Institute for the Development of Young Leaders  
The North Carolina Leadership Academy  
Uwharrie Charter Academy  
Willow Oak Montessori  
Z.E.C.A School of Arts and Technology

Applicants Rubrics and Impact statements are located on the following Office of Charter School webpage: <http://www.ncpublicschools.org/charterschools/resources/application/> If the State Board of Education grants these groups a preliminary charter, the applicants will initiate a year-long planning year which includes detailed training from appropriate staff within the Department of Public Instruction. The State Board will consider granting final charters to these groups no later than March 2013.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the SBE accept the charter application recommendations as presented from the Public Charter School Advisory Council.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett explained that, of the 30 invited applicants who appeared before the NC Public Charter Schools Advisory Council, 25 applications were recommended to receive a preliminary charter from the State Board of Education. She noted a robust discussion during the LFI Committee meeting on Wednesday.
- Chairman Harrison commended the Office of Charter Schools and the Charter School Advisory Council for screening and thoroughly vetting the 54 total applications forwarded to the Council for review.
- State Treasurer Janet Cowell raised the following questions:
  - What mechanisms are in place to assess whether students who choose traditional schools are negatively affected by funding going to charters?
    - How can counties avoid incurring costs associated with debt on schools or facilities that we do not need?
  - Part of the idea of Charter Schools is to provide opportunities for innovation and experimentation. How is the state learning from successful charters? How is data being captured and disseminated?
  - How much are county and school administrators partnering together to examine the growth projection dynamics and their effects on the LEA districts?
- Mr. Price explained that the most effective way to deal with the impact of charter schools on a school district is through the Impact Statement which is provided during the application process. He noted that not all LEAs respond to those statements. Mr. Price reminded Board members that the Board expressed a concern this past year about the saturation point in terms of the percent of students attending a charter school that would negatively impact an LEA. He noted that DPI presented several options to the Board about how the Department might be able to request the General Assembly to provide additional funding for school districts that lost five percent of its students or more in one particular year to a charter school; the district would be held harmless to provide a chance for the LEA to adjust and accommodate the loss. While there were some discussions with the General Assembly this past year, it was never officially presented, according to Mr. Price. The Department plans to continue to evaluate options for the Board to pursue to ensure that the first year of impact is minimized. He explained further that there is not a defined level for the percentage of students, and this issue continues to be examined at the state and national level. There are policies in place that mitigate the loss of students as it relates to school administrators; years ago a “hold harmless” policy on principals and central office administration was established by the General Assembly.

- In terms of indebtedness, Mr. Price explained that the general statute states that a county cannot be left with debt; no charter school can cost the state funding once it terminates existence. The county receives funding based on the total number of students within the county (ADM). He stated that unfortunately that is probably not enough to sustain all of the costs related to indebtedness. State Treasurer Cowell requested that her office be kept informed about these issues.
- Dr. Medley added that the Charter School Advisory Council has held discussions related to this issue. The Council has been asked to provide recommendations to come before the State Board for approval and is reconvening via webinar on August 23. He noted that the law is currently only concerned with the impact on the LEA where the charter is located; however, there are charters that serve multiple LEAs causing impact to all of those LEAs, according to Dr. Medley.
- Board member Tate stated that County Commissioners should be included in the process since they authorize funds to the LEAs to ensure their level of awareness regarding financial consequences. A brief discussion was held. Vice Chairman McDevitt suggested broadening the rubric beyond just the LEA impact to local impact as well. A brief discussion also ensued as a result of the Lt. Governor's comments about the potential of harming the county's bond rating.
- Board member Bartlett explained that the next task of the Charter School Advisory Council is to look closely at the impact statement because currently it is an optional process. Chairman Harrison requested that the LFI Committee keep the Treasurer aware of these issues. He also suggested that the Impact Statement must be clearly defined and the importance stressed to LEAs.
- There was no further discussion.

### ***NEW BUSINESS***

Under New Business, LFI Committee Chair Melissa Bartlett reported that the LFI Committee received an NCVPS Update from Dr. Tracey Weeks (Chief Academic Officer, NCVPS)

### **CHAIRMAN'S REMARKS**

#### **Announcements/Reminders, and Comments**

Chairman Harrison noted that veteran Board watchers will likely notice that the "Legislative Update" is not listed here under the Chairman's Remarks this month. He explained that Ms. McColl gave a thorough recap last month and has since supplied Board members with access to the online legislative report that catalogues all education related legislation. He also noted that Ms. McColl continues her work with legislators, whether or not they are in session. In addition, Ms. McColl will play a significant role at the Board's fall planning session, and the Board will hear from her in September with a legislative update.

Chairman Harrison thanked the interns from the Financial and Business Services area for their work this summer that resulted in comprehensive reports that the Department and State Board certainly will use. The

<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Thursday, August 2, 2012</b>	<b>Board Room, 9:00 AM</b>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

reports will be posted online for audience access. At this time, Chairman Harrison recognized each of the interns commending them for their work: Dayne Batten, Christopher Britt, Lauren Hales, and Jennifer DeNeal.

In addition, Chairman Harrison recognized staff attorney Ms. Katie Cornetto to introduce the Board's summer interns and to speak briefly about their work. He thanked Ms. Cornetto and Ms. Laura Crumpler for their selections of the education interns noting that they have done a superb job over the years in the quality of students selected. Ms. Cornetto explained that these interns have worked tirelessly on behalf of the State Board in these unpaid internship positions. The interns were Jason Weber (Wake Forest University School of Law), Harrison Schenck (Temple University School of Law), Matt Wilcut (Elon University School of Law), and Tanner Kroger (UNC-Chapel Hill School of Law) who was not present. Ms. Cornetto gave a special thanks to Ms. Laura Crumpler (Special Assistant to the Attorney General) who spent hours reviewing 80-plus applications for the internships.

Chairman Harrison asked Board members to hold October 1-2 on their calendars for the Board's next planning session as the September dates could not be worked out. More information will be forthcoming regarding the logistics.

He reminded Board members that delegates from the Jiangsu Province in China will join the Board at its September meeting at the US-China Summit to be held at the Friday Institute on NC State University's Centennial Campus following the September 6 meeting.

### **OLD BUSINESS**

No old business was brought before the Board.

### **NEW BUSINESS**

Board member Tate spoke briefly about a recent meeting with Dr. Peter Gorman regarding the importance of digital platforms. He suggested a committee be convened to specifically to develop a plan toward moving to a digital platform in five years. Lt. Governor Dalton explained that the eLearning Commission is engaged in this issue. State Superintendent Atkinson added that the Department of Public Instruction is deep into the work of personalizing education for every student; she provided specific examples including the Instructional Improvement System (IIS), the Shared Learning Consortium (SLC), Bring Your Own Device (BYOD), etc. In addition, she spoke about how digital platforms will change the way professional development is provided to educators. A brief discussion was held. Board member Willoughby reminded Board members that when they adopted the NC State Literacy Plan this year it included a real emphasis on digital literacy. She also announced that in September, Dr. Hiller Spires (NC State University) will provide a summary to the GCS Committee about digital learning and literacy. She invited all to attend. Chairman Harrison suggested that this topic be on the Planning Session agenda in October, and include the recommendations of the eLearning Commission and Literacy Plan.

In other New Business, Ms. Willoughby drew attention to the document entitled *The North Carolina Graduation Project: Standards of Quality and Verification Process for High School Accountability*

located at each Board member's place. She explained that the document was developed to provide guidance to high schools and LEAs regarding the NC Graduation Project. While not a graduation requirement, the State Board included the NC Graduation Project as an indicator in the accountability model for high schools.

State Superintendent Atkinson referenced a recent study conducted by Harvard University entitled *Achievement Growth: International and U.S. State Trends in Student Performance*. She reported that the study cites North Carolina as one of six states doing the most to advance student achievement with the least resources. North Carolina's accomplishment is referenced on page 27 of the 50 page pdf. The link to the report is: [http://www.hks.harvard.edu/pepg/PDF/Papers/PEPG12-03\\_CatchingUp.pdf](http://www.hks.harvard.edu/pepg/PDF/Papers/PEPG12-03_CatchingUp.pdf)

### **Globally Competitive Students – Special Presentation**

#### **➤ GCS 1 – ABCs/AMO Report for the 2011-12 School Year**

Prior to introducing GCS 1, Chairman Harrison noted that the Board and audience were about to hear good news, but before the presentation, he wanted to commend State Superintendent Atkinson noting that much of the credit for the good news goes to Dr. Atkinson and her staff. In addition, he noted that credit goes to the thousands of teachers and administrators who believe in what they do and, in many cases, know that their careers are not just careers or jobs but that they are on a mission not just to save lives but to make lives. The Chairman spoke briefly about choice reminding everyone that the children are not the ones with choice. They do not choose their circumstances at home, at school, or in their community. They do not choose whether or what kind of computers are in their classrooms; or whether or not the school has great resources and tools; and whether or not the facility is clean and safe. They don't choose their teachers, their elected officials, or their appointed officials – all of whom our children trust will act in their best interest. He reiterated that if it were not for Dr. Atkinson, DPI staff, LEA and school staff, and elected officials who understand the connection between public education and the future of this state, the news would not be good. Chairman Harrison recognized State Superintendent Atkinson to introduce GCS 1.

### **ACTION ON FIRST READING**

#### **GCS 1 – ABCs/AMO Report for the 2011-12 School Year**

**Policy Implications:** General Statute § 115C-105.20.40 (Article 8B); No Child Left Behind Act of 2001

**Presenter(s):** Ms. Angela H. Quick (Deputy Chief Academic Officer, Academic Services and Instructional Support) and Dr. Tammy Howard (Director, Accountability Services)

#### **Description:**

The 2011-12 ABCs/Annual Measureable Objectives (AMOs) results are presented for approval. The report is published electronically at <http://abcs.ncpublicschools.org>. The site reports results for ABCs growth and performance and the AMOs for each individual school. The report includes results for all schools, including Honor Schools of Excellence; Schools of Excellence; Schools of Distinction; Schools Making High Growth; Schools Making Expected Growth; Schools of Progress; Priority Schools and Low-Performing Schools. PDF and Excel formats are available, and links to Schools Not Included in



the ABCs and Schools with Unresolved Data Issues are provided. Retest scores on End-of-Grade (EOG) and End-of-Course (EOC) assessments taken in the 2011-12 school year were used in calculating ABCs performance composites and AMO results.

With the U.S. Department of Education's approval of North Carolina's request for flexibility from some of the NCLB requirements, AMOs are reported for each school. The AMOs, based on 2010-11 baseline data in English language arts and mathematics, were set to reduce by half the number of non-proficient students by 2016-17. AMO targets were set for each of the federally reported subgroups.

The ABCs Executive Summary, containing an overview of the accountability year and statistical summary of the 2011-12 ABCs /AMO results, will be presented at the meeting on Thursday.

**Recommendations:**

It is recommended that the Board approve the ABCs/AMO status of each school for the 2011-12 school year.

**Discussion/Comments:**

- State Superintendent Atkinson prefaced this report by noting that this is the 16<sup>th</sup> and final year of the ABCs of Public Education reporting before the state transitions to the READY school accountability model in the 2012-13 school year. Dr. Atkinson recognized Dr. Tammy Howard to present the results.
- Dr. Howard referred Board members to the red folder located at their places containing the executive summary (printed on yellow paper). For the 2011-12 school year, 2,482 public schools were assigned an ABCs status; these included charter and alternative schools. She noted that 18 schools were not assigned an ABCs status because they were vocational/career schools, special education schools, or hospital schools. Twenty-eight schools had insufficient data to be assigned an ABCs status, and three schools were in violation of the 95 percent participation rule. The report is reflective of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) waiver granted in May of this year by the U.S. Department of Education (USED). In the waiver, North Carolina will no longer have Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) all or nothing. Annual Measurable Objectives (AMOs) have replaced the Adequate Yearly Progress (AYP) measures previously required by the USED. Under AMOs, proficiency targets are set for each student subgroup.
- Dr. Howard provided a comprehensive overview of the report noting that nearly 80 percent (79.5 percent) of North Carolina public schools met or exceeded their academic growth goals. The report also found that 46.2 percent (1,165 schools) of all schools met all of their AMOs in comparison to last year's percentage of 27.9. The report showed that 43.9 percent of schools met high academic growth standards, and 35.6 percent of schools met expected growth. Dr. Howard stated that the 2012 numbers are slightly down from 2011 when 41.7 percent of schools met high academic growth and 39.7 percent of schools met expected growth. Growth projections of expected student performance based on previous test scores are reset each year by the state. Definitions of ABCs Categories are located on page 6 of the report.
- Transitioning to the 2012 Four-Year Graduation Rate, Dr. Howard announced that the for the first time ever, North Carolina's four-year cohort graduation rate exceeded 80 percent, up from the 2011 rate of 77.9 percent. Dr. Howard also noted that some students require a fifth year of high school in order to complete graduation requirements. The five-year cohort graduation rate for students who entered ninth grade in 2007-08 (Class of 2011) is 81.1 percent, up from the

five-year rate for the 2006-07 ninth graders (Class of 2010) of 77.7 percent. In response to Board member Greene's question, students with disabilities are not included in the graduation rate if they do not receive a diploma.

- State Superintendent Atkinson pointed out that when the Department first started tracking North Carolina's graduation rate in 2005-06, the graduation rate of African Americans was 60.4 percent; it is currently 74.5 percent – a growth of 14 points. In addition, in 2005-06, the graduation rate for American Indians was 51 percent and this past year was 73 percent; a growth of 22 points. Tremendous progress has been made to increase graduation rates for these subgroups, according to the data.
- In closing, Dr. Howard presented the 2011-12 list of 15 low-performing schools defined by the ABCs Accountability System as being schools with fewer than 50 percent of the students' scores at or above achievement Level III and making less than Expected Growth. Last year there were 14 low-performing schools.
- In an effort to point out some of the dedication that shows up at DPI just through the number of years of service staff give to this agency and to the state, Chairman Harrison thanked Dr. Ken Barbour, the person who crunches the numbers for this report and who has just completed his 21<sup>st</sup> year as a part of the process. Dr. Barbour and his staff were commended for their efforts.
- A brief discussion occurred about national ranking. State Superintendent Atkinson explained that not all states have released that graduation rate data yet; therefore, it is too early to report.
- There was no further discussion.

### **Race to the Top, NC Turnaround and Halifax Performance – Special Presentation**

➤ Dr. Pat Ashley (Director, District and School Transformation)

Using a PowerPoint presentation, Dr. Ashley provided a comprehensive overview of the data on three target groups that the Board has been following including the 118 Race to the Top (RttT) grant schools, 66 turnaround high schools, and Halifax County Schools.

In terms of the 118 schools that are the focus of RttT, Dr. Ashley shared that, at the beginning of the grant, the majority of the schools were performing at 40-50 percent proficient. Today, 39 of the 118 are now performing above 60 percent. At the halfway mark in the grant, Dr. Ashley expressed confidence that those 39 schools will be well above the minimum target goal. She was also confident that the 52 schools between 50-59 percent will also go above the targeted goal by the end of the grant period noting that all of those schools have a strong upward trajectory of improvement.

There are 16 schools that almost directly correspond with the lowest-performing lists. The Department is doubling its efforts to look at what the plans have been for those schools in order to make modifications. She noted that in 2009-10 these schools were the lowest entire five percent of the schools in North Carolina. She shared that Principal of the Year Advisor Patrice Faison's school during the past year, Oak Hill Elementary in Guilford County, moved from 40-49 percent to 70-79% making tremendous gains in a two-year period.

Dr. Ashley explained that in addition to ranking the lowest five percent of schools in North Carolina based on performance, the Department also identified any high school in North Carolina with a graduation rate below 60 percent. All but two of those schools are making headway in graduation rates and composite rates.

In terms of the 66 Turnaround high schools, Dr. Ashley shared that 58 of the 66 are now above 60 percent proficient and have sustained their performance. She noted that there are no-low performing high schools on the list, and all have a trend of continuous upward graduation rates.

Dr. Ashley shared that the Department has worked diligently for three years in partnership with the Halifax County Board of Education. She directed Board members to a chart showing that in 2008-09, Northwest High School was at 36.1 percent proficient; today it is at 60 percent proficient. In 2008-09, Southeast was at 28.4 percent proficient, and today is at 68.9 percent proficient. Both schools have made high growth and both are completely changed environments. She also directed attention to the unofficial (not published generally) assessment that the Accountability Division does each year of the overall performance of the district. In 2008-09, Halifax County's overall performance was 37.2 percent proficient, today it is at 47 percent proficient – 10 point gain in proficiency. In terms of the graduation rates for the high schools: In 2008, Southeast High School's graduation rate was 58.9% and is now 78.1 percent. In 2008-09, Northwest High School's graduation rate was at 57.8 percent and is now 73.9 percent.

### **MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**

At this time, Chairman Harrison reminded Board members that in January 2011 they held a casual conversation about highlighting, at the end of each meeting, some of the items discussed that will have a direct impact on students. At that time, Chairman Harrison decided to implement a new tradition under his leadership of having a brief conversation each month to identify in very specific terms something the Board has accomplished to improve outcomes for children. Board members cited the continued progress with the valid and reliable formative and diagnostic assessments around the K-3 reading; graduation rates and the economic impact in those students' lives; and the Halifax County Schools' Turnaround efforts.

### **ADJOURNMENT**

Indicating no other business, Chairman Harrison requested a motion to convene in closed session.

*Upon motion by Vice Chairman Wayne McDevitt, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, Board members voted unanimously to convene in closed session to consult with its attorneys on attorney/client privileged matters in the cases of Cape Lookout Marine Sciences High School v NC State Board of Education; and Hoke County et al v. NC State Board of Education.*

<b>Education Building, Raleigh</b>	<b>Thursday, August 2, 2012</b>	<b>Board Room, 9:00 AM</b>
------------------------------------	---------------------------------	----------------------------

Chairman Harrison requested a motion to adjourn the State Board of Education meeting following the Closed Session.

*Upon motion by Ms. Patricia Willoughby, and seconded by Mr. John Tate, Board members voted unanimously to adjourn the August 2, 2012, meeting of the State Board of Education.*